

Message Text

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TAGS: OSCI TBIO SWEL PL US SLIWINSKI

SUBJECT: DHEW SFCP - SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION WITH POLISH
HEALTH MINISTER SLIWINSKI

1. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN PROMISED SEVERAL TIMES A LIST OF THE TOPICS MINISTER SLIWINSKI HOPES TO DISCUSS, NOTHING CONCRETE HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING. THIS MESSAGE PRESENTS SOME POSSIBILITIES WHICH THE EMBASSY FORESEES.
 2. EXPANSION OF THE PRESENT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN KRAKOW PROBABLY WILL BE DISCUSSED, AS REPORTED EARLIER IN DETAIL. HOW HARD THE MINISTER WILL PUSH FOR STAGE III APPROVAL IS UNCLEAR, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE WILL STRESS THIS THEME IN MEETINGS ON THE HILL.
 3. THE MINISTER HIMSELF HAS SEVERAL TIMES RETURNED TO THE THEME OF "BROADER INSTITUTION-TO-INSTITUTION RELATIONSHIPS" BETWEEN U. S. AND POLISH RESEARCH CENTERS. UNDER THIS CONCEPT, WHICH HAS BEEN VERY PRODUCTIVE IN POLAND'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, HEW WOULD SOMEHOW BE EXPECTED TO SUPPORT FINANCIALLY A BROAD, GENERAL COOPERATIVE AND EXCHANGE EFFORT, FOR EXAMPLE, BETWEEN THE MEDICAL ACADEMY OF GDANSK AND SHUMWAY'S GROUP AT STANFORD MED IN TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER AREAS. SINCE HEW'S PRESENT RELATIONSHIP WITH POLAND IS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY PROTECT ORIENTED, AND SUCH BROADENING MIGHT PROVE BENEFICIAL TO U. S. INTERESTS, WE RECOMMEND SOME THOUGHT BE GIVEN AS TO HOW THIS MIGHT BE DONE.
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4. FROM RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTRY OFFICIALS (INCLUDING JELJASZEWICZ), IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT HEW WILL GET AN ARGUMENT, OR AT LEAST NO SIGNIFICANT ACTION, ON ANY U. S. PROPOSAL TO WORK OUT COST- SHARING ARRANGEMENTS. PROF. WOJTCZAK, WHO WILL ACCOMPANY THE MINISTER, SAYS HE IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT WITH FACTS THE CONTENTION THAT OVER THE YEARS THE POLISH CONTRIBU- TION TO THE DIRECT COSTS OF US- POLISH PL-480 FUNDED PROJECETS HAS BEEN " UMCH MORE THAN HALF" OF THOSE COSTS. WE FIND THIS A SURPRISING CLAIM IN VIEW OF EARLIER STATEMENTS BY KNOWLEDGE- ABLE OFFICIALS (INCLUDING JELJASZEWICZ AND THE COMMISSION BUDGET OFFICER, CZAPLICKI) THAT U. S. PAYMENTS COVERED EFFECTIVELY 100 PERCENT OF THESE COSTS. HOWEVER, IT IS AN OBVIOUS COUNTER TO A U. S. REQUEST FOR POLISH FINANCIAL INPUTS. RECALLING A SIMILAR DIALOGUE DURING PROF. KACZMAREK' S VISIT WITH DR. DAVID IN WASHING- TION TWO YEARS AGO, THE EMBASSY WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED TO RECEIVE DETAILED MEMCONS OF ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH SLIWINSKI OR HIS PARTY ON THIS POINT. FYI, MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE INDI- CATED THAT THE PREVIOUS POLISH FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION ON WHICH THEY CLAIM TO HAVE DATA IS NOT IN THE AREA OF THE SOMETIMES STAGGERING " SOCIAL COSTS" THEY TYPICALLY ADD TO THEIR OWN PROJECTS AND THOSE CARRIED OUT WITH SOCIALIST COUNTIRES. END FYI.

5. ALSO AS BACKGROUND ON THE POINT OF COST- SHARING, EVEN THOSE POLISH OFFICIALS WHO WOULD BE EXPECTED TO UNDERSTAND U. S. CONCERN OVER THE RATE OF EXHAUSTION OF THE ZLOTY SUPPLY SEEM RATHER TO BELIEVE THEIR FINANCE MINISTRY' S ROSY PREDICTIONS THAT THE SUPPLY WILL LAST FOR A VAUGE BUT " VERY LONG" TIME. THEY SEEM TO FEEL THAT THE PRESUENT TREASURY HOLD ON RESERVA- TION CERTIFICATES, AND TALK OF DECLARING THE CURRENCY NON- SURPLUS, ARE SIMPLY BALDFACED U. S. TACTICAL MOVEN IN PREPARATION FOR THE SLIWINSKI AND KACZMAREK VISITS. THIS DISBELIEF PREVENTS SENIOR HEALTH AND OTHER SCIENCE OFFICIALS FROM SEEING A NEED TO PUT SOME THOUGHT INTO ALTERNATIVE MECH- ANISMS OF FINANCING NOW.

6. FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH JELJASZEWICZ, ALL OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED WITH HIM AND RUDOWSKI ARE LIKELY TO EMERGE DURING THE MINISTER' S VISIT. WE HOPE THE U. S. SIDE, AS RUMORED HERE, MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE FAVORABLE RESPONSE REGARDING A MEDLARS TERMINAL.

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7. WE IMAGINE SLIWINSKI MAY ALSO RAISE THE OLD THEME OF POLISH NEED FOR MODERN EQUIPMENT, EITHER WITH A REQUEST FOR A SMALL DOLLAR COMPONENT IN THE PROGRAMS OR BY LOANING OF AGENCY- OWNED EQUIPMENT. ON THE FORMER, ALTHOUGH, AS HEW IS AWARE WE # HAVE CONSISTENTLY EXPHASIZED THE DIFFICULTY OF THIS, , WE WOULD RECOMMEND SOME CONSIDERATION TO BE GIVEN TO A TOKEN DOLLAR INCLUSION, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. TO REPEAT, WE HAVE NOT MENTIONED THIS TO THE POLES.

8. ONE SURPRISE SLIWINSKI MIGHT SPRING IS THAT OF LARGE- SCALE MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY ARRANGEMENTS OR PURCHASES BY POLAND. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO DETAILS, HERE WERE VAUGE EARLIER DISUCSSIONS CENTERED ON POLISH DESIRE TO BUY LARGE AMOUNTS OF U. S. EQUIPMENT FOR HOSPITALS, OR POSSIBLY DRUG- PRODUCTION FACILITIES, AS REPORTED SOME TIME AGO.

9. IF THE DEPARTMENT OR HEW WISH EMBASSY COMMENT OR BACKGROUND ON OTHER SUBJECTS WHICH SLIWINSKI ACTUALLY DOES RAISE, WE SUGGEST THESE BE INDICATED BY PRIORITY CABLE, AND WOULD APPREC- IATE GENERAL REPORTING BY THIS MEANS SINCE MEMCONS, WITH THEIR SLOW DELIVERY TIME, IN THE POST HAVE NOT ALWAYS PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR RAPID AND PRODUCTIVE FOLLOWUP.
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